

Message Text

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FOR CARTER FROM PA

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TAGS: SOPN, OVIP (VANCE)

SUBJECT: PRESS MATERIAL

1. HERewith FULL TEXT FLORA LEWIS BY-LINER NEW YORK
TIMES FRIDAY 12 AUG HEADED "DAYAN IS OPTIMISTIC ON PEACE
TREATIES."

2. JERUSALEM, AUG 11--FOREIGN MINISTER MOSHE DAYAN OF
ISRAEL TODAY EXPRESSED OPTIMISM ABOUT THE PROSPECTS FOR
NEGOTIATING PEACE TREATIES AT LEAST WITH EGYPT, JORDAN
AND LEBANON, ALTHOUGH HE SAID A PACT WITH SYRIA WOULD
BE MORE DIFFICULT TO ACHIEVE.

3. HE INSISTED THAT THE CURRENT ISRAELI POSITION, WHICH
HAS BEEN CHARACTERIZED AS HARD-LINE, WAS SIMPLY THE
INITIAL POSTURE FOR STARTING NEGOTIATIONS AND THAT HIS
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GOVERNMENT DID NOT RULE OUT BARGAINING ON ANY POINTS.

4. "ON THE WHOLE, I FEEL OPTIMISTIC," HE SAID IN A
TWO-HOUR INTERVIEW. "ON SUBSTANCE, WE HAVE A GOOD BASIS
FOR NEGOTIATION."

5. WILLING TO CONSIDER COMPROMISE--MR. DAYAN SPOKE AFTER

SECRETARY OF STATE CYRUS R. VANCE HAD LEFT ON A QUICK TOUR OF ARAB CAPITALS AND AFTER A CABINET MEETING HAD ASSESSED THE RESULTS OF THE TALKS HERE.

6. ALTHOUGH MR. DAYAN DESCRIBED THE SAME ISRAELI POSITION AS PRIME MINISTER MENAHEM BEGIN, THE FOREIGN MINISTER'S TONE EMPHASIZED REASONABLENESS, WILLINGNESS TO CONSIDER COMPROMISE, AND A STATED BELIEF THAT MOST ARAB STATES WANTED PEACE.

7. "I THINK THIS IS ROLLING," HE SAID. "I DON'T SAY PEACE IS AROUND THE CORNER, BUT I DO SEE THE NEGOTIATION AROUND THE CORNER."

8. AT ANOTHER POINT, MR. DAYAN SAID THAT GIVEN THE PERSONALITY OF PRESIDENT ANWAR EL-SADAT AND THE INTERNAL SITUATION IN EGYPT, HE CONSIDERED HIM "A GOOD PARTNER FOR A PEACE AGREEMENT." MR. DAYAN SAID HE THOUGHT MR. SADAT "REALLY WANTS PEACE."

9. MR. DAYAN SPOKE IN HIS OFFICE AT THE FOREIGN MINISTRY, ANSWERING ALL QUESTIONS AND INSISTING THAT HE SHOULD BE BELIEVED DESPITE THE ALMOST CONTRADICTORY IMPRESSION OF HIS WORDS AND THOSE OF THE PRIME MINISTER.

10. AT THE START, MR. DAYAN SAID HE WAS SPEAKING FOR UNCLASSIFIED

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HIMSELF, AND WHEN HE WAS ASKED LATER ABOUT THE REMARK, HE SAID, "THAT IS NOT LITTLE."

11. "I AM NOT BEGIN," HE WENT ON TO SAY, "THERE ARE DIFFERENCES, BUT THERE IS A UNIFIED GOVERNMENT POSITION."

12. THAT POSITION INCLUDES NOT ONLY THE APPROACH TO NEGOTIATIONS AS NOW DEFINED, HE SAID, BUT A WILLINGNESS TO ACCEPT THAT CHANGES WILL BE LIKELY IN THE COURSE OF BARGAINING AND THAT THE "FINAL SETTLEMENT WILL NOT COME OUT" IN THE TERMS ISRAEL HAS OFFERED FOR THE START.

13. ON THE RESULT OF TALKS CONDUCTED SO FAR THROUGH MR. VANCE, MR. DAYAN NOTED THAT JORDAN AGREED THAT JERUSALEM SHOULD NOT BE DIVIDED ONCE AGAIN.

14. "I AM HAPPY ABOUT THAT," HE SAID. "THERE IS GOOD NEWS AND BAD NEWS ON JERUSALEM. THE GOOD NEWS IS THAT THE JORDANIANS SPEAK OF AN OPEN CITY WITH FREE ACCESS FOR ALL TO THE HOLY PLACES, AND SO ON. THE BAD NEWS IS

THAT, IN TERMS OF SOVEREIGNTY, THEY WANT THE 1967 LINE,

WITH THE EASTERN PART UNDER ARAB SOVEREIGNTY, JORDANIAN OR PALESTINIAN."

15. AS AN EXAMPLE OF ISRAEL'S FLEXIBILITY, HE SAID NOT EVEN EAST JERUSALEM WAS EXCLUDED AS A POSSIBLE SUBJECT OF BARGAINING. WHEN DAVID BEN-GURION WAS PRIME MINISTER, MR. DAYAN SAID, HE WAS READY TO SIGN A PEACE TREATY THAT WOULD HAVE PROVIDED FOR CONTINUED PARTITION OF JERUSALEM.

16. ON THE WEST BANK, MR. DAYAN SAID THE IDEA OF A UNITED NATIONS TRUSTEESHIP FOR A TRANSITIONAL PERIOD LEADING TO SELF-DETERMINATION HAD NOT COME UP IN TALKS WITH THE AMERICANS BECAUSE THE UNITED STATES WAS TRYING TO SEE FIRST WHETHER THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE ISRAELI UNCLASSIFIED

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AND ARAB DEMANDS COULD BE NARROWED. IF NOT, HE SAID, THE AMERICANS WILL MAKE THEIR OWN PROPOSALS.

17. ASKED WHAT WAS HOLDING UP A GENEVA CONFERENCE IF ISRAEL WAS PREPARED TO BARGAIN SO OPENLY, MR. DAYAN SAID THE REAL ISSUE WAS WHETHER THE PARTIES SHOULD PROCEED DIRECTLY TO GENEVA AND NEGOTIATE FROM PRESENT POSITIONS, OR AN EFFORT SHOULD FIRST BE MADE TO REDUCE THE DIFFERENCES. HE SAID MR. VANCE'S HOPE FOR A CONFERENCE BEFORE THE END OF THIS YEAR WAS REASONABLE.

18. MR. DAYAN SAID HE THOUGHT IT WOULD BE EASIER TO REACH A SETTLEMENT ON THE FUTURE OF THE WEST BANK AND THE GAZA STRIP THAN ON THE OTHER OCCUPIED AREAS. THE ARAB COUNTRIES DEMAND COMPLETE WITHDRAWAL TO THE 1967 LINE, WHICH MR. DAYAN SAID WAS WITHIN 10 MILES OF TEL AVIV AND TOTALLY UNREALISTIC.

19. THE ISRAELI POSITION IS THAT THERE SHOULD BE NO WITHDRAWAL AND "NO FOREIGN SOVEREIGNTY," PALESTINIAN, JORDANIAN OR OTHER, ON THE WEST BANK, BUT MR. DAYAN MADE A POINT OF NOTING THAT THE ISRAELIS HAD NOT ANNEXED THE WEST BANK IN 10 YEARS OF OCCUPATION AND WERE NOT NOW SPEAKING OF ANNEXATION.

20. THIS PLANK WAS IN THE PLATFORM OF MR. BEGIN'S LIKUD PARTY BEFORE THE ELECTION, AND MR. DAYAN SAID HE WOULD NOT HAVE JOINED THE GOVERNMENT IF IT WERE STILL BEING PROPOSED.

21. ON THE OTHER HAND, HE SAID, THE ISRAELI MILITARY OCCUPATION SHOULD NOT GO ON INDEFINITELY EVEN IF IT COULD BE MAINTAINED.
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22. "OUR NEIGHBORS THE PALESTINIAN ARABS DON'T LIKE IT," HE SAID. "WE SHOULD SIT DOWN WITH THEM AND GET AN AGREEMENT, NOT AGAINST THEIR WILL."

23. THE DANGER OF WAR IS LESS ON THE WEST BANK THAN ON THE SYRIAN AND EGYPTIAN FRONTIERS, HE SAID, BECAUSE THE PALESTINIANS ON THE WEST BANK DO NOT WANT THEIR HOMES TO BE A BATTLEGROUND AGAIN. MR. DAYAN SAID THE REAL PALESTINIAN PROBLEM WAS THAT OF THE REFUGEES IN GAZA, JORDAN, LEBANON AND ELSEWHERE, AND THEY SHOULD BE PERMANENTLY RESETTLED WHERE THEY NOW RESIDE.

24. AS EVIDENCE FOR HIS CONVICTION THAT COEXISTENCE ON THE WEST BANK WAS POSSIBLE, HE SAID THAT IN 10 YEARS OF NEGOTIATIONS THE ISRAELIS AND THE JORDANIANS HAD NOT BEEN ABLE TO DRAW A LINE DIVIDING THE WEST BANK. SINCE THAT WAS IMPOSSIBLE AND JORDAN UNDERSTANDS THAT COMPLETE ISRAELI WITHDRAWAL IS NOT REALISTIC, HE SAID, THE CONCLUSION IS THAT ARABS AND JEWS MUST FIND A WAY TO LIVE TOGETHER.

25. ASKED ABOUT SECURITY ARRANGEMENTS, HE SAID SUCH SPECIFICS WOULD HAVE TO AWAIT ACTUAL NEGOTIATIONS. ISRAEL'S DECISION NOT TO PERMIT FOREIGN SOVEREIGNTY AND NOT TO SEEK ANNEXYATION DOES NOT MEAN THERE WILL BE A VACUUM, HE SAID. (END TEXT) CHRISTOPHER

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